

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 TRSE-00
EUR-12 /043 W
-----120511Z 031704 /14

P R 111450Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7717

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR

SUBJECT: LOCKHEED CONSTELLATION N-11SR

REF: (A) KUWAIT 1731, (B) KUWAIT 1458 AND PREVIOUS

1. DURING APRIL 6 CALL BY EMBOFFS, KUWAIT'S DIRECTOR GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION (DGCA), SHAIKH KABER AL-(ATHBI AL-SABAH, AGAIN RAISED PROBLEM OF LOCKHEED CONSTELLATION N-11SRN WHICH NOW HAS BEEN OBSTRUCTING AIRPORT OPERATIONS FOR NEARLY A YEAR. HE AGAIN EMPHASIZED NEED TO MOVE PLANE IN ORDER TO CONTINUE AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION. HE SAID THAT MOVING PLANE OUT INTO DESERT AND ABANDONING IT WAS NOT VIABLE SOLUTION AS FUEL IN TANKS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT COULD POSE A SAFETY HAZARD. EMBOFFS WONDERED WHETHER VARIOUS KUWAITI FEES MIGHT NOT HAVE LED PLANE'S OWNERS TO CONCLUDE THAT COST OF REMOVING PLANE WAS GREATER THAN ITS WORTH. DGCA REPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT FEES WOULD BE MINIMAL AND NOT OF A LEVEL TO DISCOURAGE REMOVAL OF PLANE.

2. SHORT VISIT BY PM LEASING OFFICIAL LAST SEPTEMBER LEFT US WITH IMPRESSION THAT COMPANY NOT INTERESTED IN REMOVING PLANE BECAUSE OF HIGH COST OF COMMERCIAL FEES LEVIED BY KUWAIT
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AIRWAYS CORPORATION (KACLM KAC IS NOT DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO DGCA ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER, SHAIKH JABER IS MEMBER OF RULING FAMILY AND SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL AT AIRPORT AS WELL AS KAC BOARD MEMBER. AS KUWAITI OFFICIAL MOST INTERESTED IN REMOVAL OF PLANE, HE MIGHT PROVE HELPFUL IN ANY DISPUTES PM LEASING MAY HAVE REGARDING FEES CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH PLANE'S STAY IN KUWAIT.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY LONDON CONTACT PM LEASING TO DETERMINE EXACT STATUS OF THEIR INTEREST IN AIRCRAFT. IF THEY HAVE NOT ABANDONED IT, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY LONDON'S URGING THEM TO SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO KUWAIT, PREFERABLY AT END OF APRIL, WHEN SHAIKH JABER WILL RETURN FROM ATTENDANCE AT MONTREAL ICAO CONFERENCE. PM LEASING SHOULD COORDINATE VISIT WITH THIS EMBASSY TO INSURE THAT SHAIKH KABER IS IN KUWAIT. IF COMPANY DOES NOT RESPOND BY END OF APRIL, HAVING ALREADY LEFT PLANE UNATTENDED FOR NEARLY A YEAR, WE PROPOSE TO INFORM GOK OF ABANDONMENT ALONG LINES OUTLINED REF B UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: RESPONSE TO ABOVE FROM EMBASSY LONDON AND DEPARTMENT BY END OF APRIL.
MAESTRONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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